Decline in the production of sugarcane

1069. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in the production of sugarcane during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the target set for sugarcane production during the year 1993-94; and

(d) the estimated achievement so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reasons for decline in sugarcane production in the country from 253.99 million tonnes in 1991-92 to 230.83 million tonnes in 1992-93 is attributed to reduction in area under sugarcane due to adverse weather conditions prevailing at sowing time in the major producing States; inability of sugar mills to accept cane from farmers due to very high production of cane in the previous year, i.e. 1991-92 etc.

(c) The target of sugarcane production for 1993-94 is set at 250.00 million tonnes.

(d) According to the present assessment, the sugarcane production for the country as a whole is anticipated at about 231.00 million tonnes during 1993-94.

Per capita availability of foodgrains

1070. SHRI MENTARY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita availability of foodgrains in the country;

(b) whether any study has been made recently to assess the pec capita availability of foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that unrestricted exports will further reduce the per capita availability of foodgrains; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government to rectify the imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) The per capita availability of foodgrains has been provisionally estimated at 465.6 grams per day for 1993.

(d) and (e) Exports are normally limited to exportable surpluses in the case of various foodgrains. Only Basmati rice, superior varieties of Non-Basmati Rice and supecior variety of Wheat, namely; Durum Wheat have been permitted for export. This ensures that availability of items of mass consumption is not affected adversely. Similarly, export of coarse grains viz., Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Barley and Ragi is limited to a small quantity of 50,000 MTs with the intention that dry-land farmers are benefitted. This quantity is also exportable surplus. Hybrid Jowar has also been allowed to be exported by Government of Maharashtca to the extent of 3.55 lakh MTs which is also an exportable surplus.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Andhra Pradesh

1071. DR. YELAMANCHILLI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh Agriculture University has submitted a proposal to locate Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district in the State;

(b) if so, at what stage of consideration it is; and

(c) how old it is and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Vice-Chancellor of A.P.A.U. has requested the Council for establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in nine districts of the State.

(b) The ICAR had already sanctioned a Krishi Vigyan Kendra each in all the